

REMARKS

In the response to arguments, it is suggested that the reference teaches two different inventions, one of which relates to dispersion compensation and the other of which relates to a coating. However, in fact, the coating is a coating that is used in the PMD compensator. See page 4, paragraph 54, "A highly reliable PMD compensator can be achieved when the PM fibers of the phase shifters and the variable phase plates utilize durable polymer or metalized optical fiber coatings." The PM fiber is the optical device 408 of the embodiment discussed in Figure 4 and relied upon in the office action. It is the coating on the fiber that allows the polarization mode dependant dispersion compensation. The material relied on in page 95 makes it clear that the compensation is fixed. Nothing elsewhere is to the contrary.

Thus, while there is both a fiber, a fiber coating, and a compensator which is described, they are all part of the same system. This is well explained in the Abstract where it explains that the compensator includes a phase shifter and a variable delay section. Then, it explains that the phase shifter engages the segment of an optical fiber that is coated with a radiation cured coating. The coating is selected in response to a preload of certain conditions and the coating is capable of transmitting a transverse stress to the fiber to controllably change the birefringence of the fiber. Thus, there are not two different inventions. There is only one invention and the operative element is the coating which only applies as fixed dispersion compensation.

Therefore, reconsideration is requested.

Respectfully submitted,



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